

REMARKS

In the Office Action of August 26, 2009 (the Office Action), the pending Claims 1-55, have been subjected to restriction as set forth below:

Group I	Claims 1-31, drawn to a thermoelectric device.
Group II	Claims 32-36, drawn to a thermoelectric device.
Group III	Claims 37-39, drawn to a thermoelectric device.
Group IV	Claims 40-46, drawn to a thermoelectric device.
Group V	Claims 47-50, drawn to a method for cooling an object.
Group VI	Claims 51-55, drawn to a method for thermoelectric power conversion.

Office Action, page 2. The Office Action has also required election of one of the species set forth below:

Species A (claims 2, 16, 19, 20, 23-25, 33, and 38), which is directed to establishing a temperature differential, and
Species B (claims 3, 34, 39, and 40-46), which is directed to generating electrical potential and an electrical current.

Office Action, pages 2-3. In addition, the Office Action has indicated that Claims 1, 32, 37, and 40 are generic. The Applicants further submit that Claims 4-15, 17-18, 21-22, 26-31, and 35-36 are generic with respect to Species A and Species B.

The Applicants hereby elect prosecution of Group I (including Claims 1-31) and Species A (Claims 2, 16, 19, 20, 23-25, 33, and 38). The Applicants have maintained all claims in the Application because the Examiner has indicated that independent Claims 1, 32, 37, and 40 are generic. The Applicants have withdrawn Claims 3, 34, 39, and 40-46 which the Office Action has identified as belonging to non-elected Species B. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of generic Claims 1, 4-15, 17-18, 21-22, and 26-31 of Group I and Claims 2, 16, 19, 20, and 23-25 of Group I and Species A.

In re: Rama Venkatasubramanian et al.

Serial No.: 10/536,463

Filed: March 13, 2006

Page 12 of 12

The elections presented herein are made without prejudice to the Applicants' right to pursue non-elected and/or withdrawn claims in one or more divisional applications. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly if such contact will expedite the examination and allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

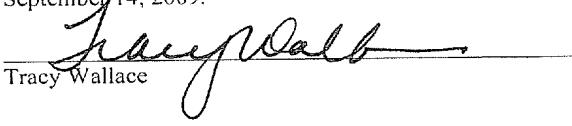

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